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25X1A

COUNTRY Albania

DATE DISTR. 14 JUL 50

SUBJECT Albanian Economic Situation; USSR Refusal
to Give Loan

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. The continued critical economic situation of Albania is such that even the heavy taxation imposed upon the people cannot cover the requirements of the State.
2. It is said that efforts to obtain a large loan from the USSR were made recently; there were many negotiations, but in the end nothing came of them. The Soviet Union allegedly stated that she would not give any money to Albania, but that she would give her assistance in goods; this was believed by some Albanians to be mere "eye-wash" given out by the financial "responsible" of the Communist Party of Albania to keep the Albanian Communists quiet, while the Soviet refusal was interpreted to mean that the USSR was unwilling to risk the money necessary to put Albania on her feet, although the Albanians felt that this would be only a fair return for what the Soviet Union takes from Albania in the form of petroleum, ores, livestock and agricultural products.

This document is hereby regraded to
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